

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6 are canceled and newly added Claims 7-17 are presented for examination.

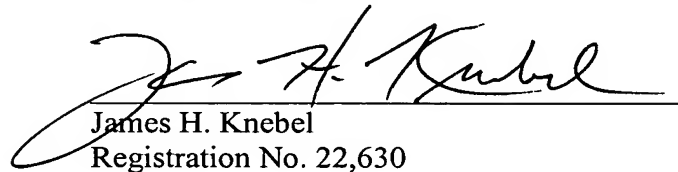
The newly presented claims are added in order to comply with U.S. patent practice by deleting multiple claim dependencies. Otherwise, the newly presented claims embrace comparable subject matter as the original claims. PCT Rule 66.8(a).

No new matter has been added and the new set of claims does not go beyond the disclosure of the international application as filed. Thus, PCT Article 34(2)(b) has not been violated. All of the claims presented can be substantiated by the application as filed.

An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon



James H. Knebel  
Registration No. 22,630

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 03/06)